



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

November 19, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Legislative Oversight Committee Members
Commission for MH/DD/SAS
Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs
State Consumer Family Advisory Committee Chairs
Advocacy Organizations and Groups
North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
County Managers
County Board Chairs
North Carolina Council of Community Programs
NC Association of Directors of DSS

State Facility Directors
Area Program Directors
Area Program Board Chairs
DHHS Division Directors
Provider Organizations
MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups
MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups
Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders

From: Mike Moseley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MM", written over a horizontal line.

**Re: Communication Bulletin #084
Community Rehabilitation Programs**



There have recently been a number of stories in the media regarding the future of Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs), commonly known as Sheltered Workshops. These articles have erroneously created the impression that the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services is planning to discontinue its support of CRPs.

CRPs have a long history of providing individuals with disabilities with developmental skills training, vocational adjustment services, and extended or sheltered employment. The state pays for these services primarily through a service definition known as Adult Developmental Vocational Program, or ADVP. In State Fiscal Year 2006-2007, DMH/DD/SAS spent more than \$21 million in state funds on this service.

It is true that we have been working with the industry, consumers and families, and other stakeholders to develop a wider array of employment options for people with disabilities. In a person-centered system, people with disabilities should be supported to have an array of options and to make choices about where they live, work and how they enjoy their leisure time activities. Our goal is for people with disabilities to be able to be fully participating members of their communities. In accordance with nationally-recognized best practices, that includes ensuring adequate opportunities for consumers to be supported in employment in integrated community settings.

It is also true that in some Local Management Entity (LME) catchment areas, LMEs have worked with consumers and families and their CRP providers to implement alternatives to the traditional ADVP service. Those changes have been driven by local circumstances and have been made locally. We are monitoring the impact of those



changes on consumers and are encouraged by the preliminary results. However, the state has no plan to discontinue support for CRPs or to eliminate the ADVP service definition unless or until appropriate alternatives are developed for all consumers.

cc: Secretary Dempsey Benton
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